



CALIFORNIA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

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August 6, 1999

Lester Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay/Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Bruce Babbitt
Secretary of Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-9997

The Honorable Mary Nichols
Secretary
The Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **Freedom of Information Act Request for:
Background Data on CALFED Expenditures
from 1994 to Date**

Dear Secretaries Babbitt and Nichols and Director Snow:

California business and labor interests have been involved in ongoing efforts via a coalition to secure federal and state funding for CALFED programs. There has been some confusion about whether funds provided to date have been obligated and, if so, expended. Further, if these funds have not been obligated, questions have been raised regarding the current plans for their expenditure. Obviously, it is problematic to keep pushing for additional appropriations when we cannot account adequately for use of the money to date.

We thus ask that you respond in detail to the following questions regarding how money, which we currently estimate at \$250 million, has been or will be spent under the auspices of CALFED from 1994 to the present date:

- A. Please list all sources of funding for CALFED by origins, authorizations, dates and amounts contributed.

- How many programs, projects, or activities have been funded by CALFED? Please list each one.
 - What funds have been obligated, allocated or encumbered, to date?
 - Of the funds obligated, allocated or encumbered, what are the actual expenditures to date?
 - What funds remain unallocated?
- B. Please list all contractors, grant recipients, and other designees whose functions include, but are not limited to any effort to study, plan, design, implement, promote, construct, operate, maintain, monitor, manage, facilitate, coordinate, mitigate, or perform outreach (including conferences and field tours) for any project, program, or activity under CALFED.
- How much money is obligated under contract, grant or other agreement with each?
 - What work product is expected?
 - What is the anticipated delivery date of the work product?
 - What is the actual expenditure to date?
 - How were contractors/grantees/other designees selected – via sole source or directed program or competitive bidding?
 - Who made these selections?
 - What was the criteria used for these selections?
 - How much of the funding is attributable to miscellaneous/expenses/administration? Are these figures calculated by contract amount or some other formula?
- C. Please provide existing information sufficient to allow a breakdown of obligations/expenditures as follows:
- Studies or planning processes
 - On-the-ground improvements or projects, including any operational changes
 - Land acquisitions
 - Reports (monitoring, permitting, pilot studies)
 - Special projects/special support

- Community liaison activities/public involvement/outreach
 - Environmental water acquisitions/acre-feet purchased
- D. Please provide information regarding existing and currently projected CALFED staffing requirements as follows:
- List of full-time employees
 - List of temporary employees
 - List of part-time employees
 - List of limited term employees
 - List of employees "on loan" from other agencies/departments/divisions
- E. What auditing processes have been used to account for CALFED expenditures?
- List names of auditors
 - Provide copies of existing audit reports

Just as a reminder, according to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), you are required to release all *reasonably segregable portions* of the information which are not themselves exempt. (5 U.S.C., Sec. 522(b).) We are, of course, willing to pay for copying fees associated with this request, but ask that you provide us with an estimate of those amounts in advance.

Secretary Babbitt should feel free to forward this FOIA request to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or other appropriate agencies with field offices subject to the Interior Department's jurisdiction.

Although we are aware of our administrative appeal rights under 5 U.S.C., Sec. 522 (a)(6)(A)(i) of the FOIA, we appreciate your anticipated cooperation in this important inquiry and eagerly await your response within the statutorily imposed time limit of 20 working days.

Sincerely,

Bill Pauli

BILL PAULI
President

cc: Council of Labor and Business (COLAB)
Chamber of Commerce
California Business Properties Association
California State Council of Laborers